Mr. M. Sivarama Menon:—Will the Government impose a condition that Municipalities will be given some preferential treatment ?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:— That is a point which will be considered by the Government.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— Will the Hon'ble Member for Accounts tell me whether he has before him the printed proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee which was distributed among the members?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan:— Will a general preference be given to Cochinites over and above the 50 per cent mentioned in the notification?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— I cannot say anything now ?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan:— Will the Government be prepared to reconsider that?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:— When necessity arises Government will consider.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— Can there be any difficulty for two companies, one at Trichur and the other at Ernakulam? If the work is going to be entrusted to a Cochin Company, could not the capital be lowered from 5 lakhs to 2½ lakhs and instead of one company two companies?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— The Member has not specified the particulars how that would be more satisfactory.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— According to the notification will it be possible to collect such a big capital within one year? Is it not easy for Government to raise five lakhs for two thermal stations one at Trichur and the other at Ernakulam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— The supply of electric current will have to be made at the lowest possible rates. Two separate companies having their own every day charges and electrical supplies and the remuneration for management in two different stations will all contribute to increase the cost of working the electric stations. It is because of that that we wish to entrust the work to one company.

Mr. President:— I am afraid we are going too far into the details.

Dr. E. S. R. Menon—Appointment as Director of Public Health.

99. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

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(1) when was Mr. E. S. R. Menon appointed as the Director of Public Health;

(2) when was he confirmed;

(3) what was his pay at the time of appointment;

(4) what is his present pay?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:—(1) and (2). On 1-2-1108.

(3) Rs. 200 in the grade of Rs. 200—400.

(4) Rs. 530 in the grade of Rs. 450—650+125.

Mr. T. A Ramachandra Ayyar:—Is it generally the practice of Government to confirm officers as soon as appointed?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—It is the practice very often.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:— Are there officers, even Heads of Departments in Government service, who are not confirmed even after some years of their service?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—There might be.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:—What are the special reasons for that?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—We cannot say off-hand and the reasons cannot be disclosed.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:— Were there not officers who were not confirmed even after four years' service?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—I want notice.

Mr. C. R Iyyunni:—In the history of Cochin is there any officer who has been appointed on a pay of Rs. 200 and whose salary has been raised to Rs. 700 and that in the course of 2 years?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—I want notice.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:—Was the present Commissioner of Police Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon confirmed only after four years?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—I want notice.

Mr. P. Raman Menon:—Was not any consideration necessary for the confirmation of this gentleman?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—The person in question was appointed to a newly created post.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:— Did not Mr. Nilakanta Menon give satisfaction to the Government?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—The delay in confirmation was on technical grounds like consequential arrangements. Consequent upon the confirmation there might be some other arrangements. Very often difficulties arise in that direction and it will delay the confirmation of a particular officer. It is no reflection upon the quality of his work.

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Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon:— Is it because that he was specially trained for the post that he was not confirmed?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—Each case is decided on its own merits. Special cases will have to be decided upon its own merits.

Mr. P. Raman Menon:—There is no principle applicable to all officers: it will vary with individuals I suppose?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:— There are principles. They are dealt with upon their own merits.

Mr. P. Raman Menon:—Individual merits I suppose?

Roads constructed by the Public Health Department in Trippunittura.

100. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether any roads were constructed by the Department of Public Health in Trippunittura this year;

(2) what is the amount allotted in the budget for each;

(3) were tenders called for;

(4) if so, the names of the tenderers and the tender reductions given by each;

(5) the name of the person whose tender was accepted?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon:—(1) Yes. (A road near the Boys' High School, Trippunittura under construction.)

(2) Rs. 750 only for the work referred to in (1).

(3) Yes.

(4) (a) Mr. M. Govindankutty Menon at 5% less than the estimated rates.

(b) Mr. M. Kuriakko at 12½% less than the estimated rates.

(5) The tender of Mr. M. Kuriakko the lower of the two, was accepted.

Mr. T. A Ramachandra Ayyar:—Is this the only road constructed by the Health Department in Trippunittura?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon:—The answer is plain. I said only one road has been constructed by the Health Department.

Prosecution—Kudumi Chetties of Trippunittura.

101. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:—Will the Government be pleased to state with regard to the proposed prosecution of the Kudumi Chetties of Trippunittura for their obstacles in the path of the officers of the Sanitary Department:—

(1) the reason why the prosecution was withdrawn;

(2) will they be pleased to place on the table of the House the report of the Police officer in charge of the station about the incidents connected with the Kudumi riots;

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